

Neighborhood News

December 2016

Have a Wonderful Christmas & Best Wishes for a Happy New Year!



Christmas is the time to celebrate peace and joy. It's the time of family and friends togetherness and to reflect on the many things that we are grateful for. So, on behalf of the City of Concord's Partnership for Stronger Neighborhoods Program, best wishes to you and the families within your neighborhood for a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season!

2016 Concord Christmas Parade

First, a big THANK YOU goes out to the neighborhood representatives who came out and road along on the Neighborhood Program parade float on November 19. Although it was a rather windy day, I hear that everyone had a fun time. This event provided the perfect opportunity to showcase the faces of the neighborhoods participating in the program. Visit the [Cabarrus County Chanel 22 Youtube Page](#) to watch the 2016 Christmas Parade. We're looking forward to next year's parade and hope that more neighborhoods will join in the fun. This event is sponsored by the [Cabarrus Events Association](#).



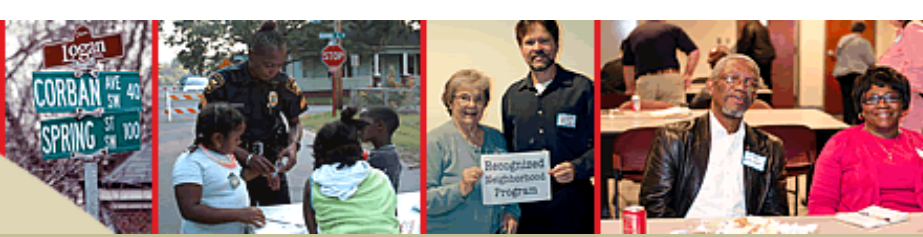
Photo courtesy of Independent Tribune



Holiday Social Event Scheduled for **December 12, 2016**

Attention Neighborhood Leaders!! Join us on Monday December 12, 2016 for a "Meet & Greet" social event. Come and meet with neighborhood leaders from the City of Concord's Recognized Neighborhood Program and share stories of community work. The event will be held in the community room at Fire Station #7 located at 250 International Drive NW from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Learn about Neighborhood Program enhancements and network with other neighborhood leaders. City staff will also be on hand to meet with neighborhood leaders.

Send email to jzarc@concordnc.gov or call (704) 920.5298 to RSVP for this event. *Light refreshments will be served.*



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Good Neighbor Tip

Where does your recyclables go?



All good neighbors know that recycling has a broad range of environmental benefits but did you know that there are also economic benefits associated with recycling? Recycling extends landfill lifespans and prevents materials that have economic value from going to waste. The recyclables from Concord residences are taken to a materials recovery facility (MRF) where they are sorted by type, baled, and marketed to manufacturers who give them new lives! Many modern MRFs use machinery to do most of the sorting, and this is just what happens at [Sonoco Recycling](#), the MRF that accepts Concord's materials. At concordnc.gov, you can check out a video that shows this amazing facility in action.

Remember to properly prepare your recyclables before placing them in the bin. Here's how:

- Rinse, flatten (if possible) and remove lids. Larger plastic lids and small plastic bottle caps are recyclable. Do not bundle or bag. Labels are OK to leave on.
- Place all packing materials into tied, plastic bags and place them in your garbage cart.
- Break down (flatten) all cardboard boxes and cut down into 3ft x 3ft sections (or smaller) for recycling.
- Lay smaller boxes near the top of your cart to prevent jamming.
- A MAXIMUM of 2 or 3 flattened cardboard boxes can be placed between the top of the cart and the lid for collection. Additional boxes should be flattened, cut down to 3ft x 3ft sections and placed inside your recycling cart.

Any boxes or other recyclable materials that have items unacceptable for recycling in them will not be collected. Recycling is collected every other-week on your regularly scheduled garbage day.

For more information on residential recycling collection, visit www.concordnc.gov.

Crime Prevention Tip

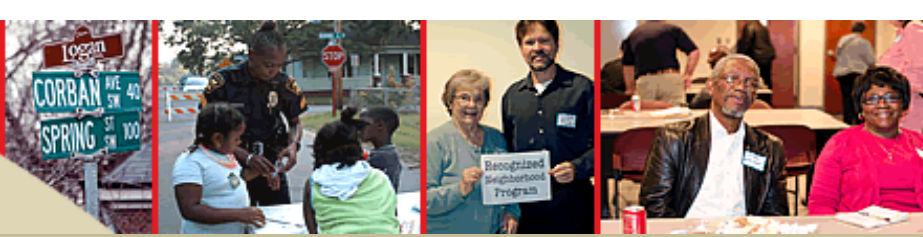
Special message from Concord Police:

Don't let thieves steal your holiday.

While the Grinch may be a fictional character, thieves are not. There are some among us that seek to take advantage of our good will, dampening otherwise cheerful spirits. Here are some tips to keep your holidays safe from the "Grinch" at home, and while shopping in stores or online.



Prevent online identity fraud. When shopping online, only shop at reputable websites. If you are unsure about a website's security and still wish to purchase from them, use a prepaid credit or gift card.



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Avoiding package theft at home. To help prevent package theft once your order is delivered, make sure someone is present to receive the package or ask delivery companies to hold packages for pick-up at their local offices.

Being safe while shopping. Carry a minimal amount of cash, credit cards, and personal information while you are out. Always, park in well light areas. Vehicles in parking garages can be easy targets, especially if you purchase items like electronics and leave them in your car while you go to grab a coffee or bite to eat.

[Click here to read the full article \(Special message from Concord Police\).](#)

If you have been victimized or suspect that you have fallen victim to a crime, please call the Concord Police Department at 704-920-5000.



Coyotes Informational Workshop December 19, 5:30PM

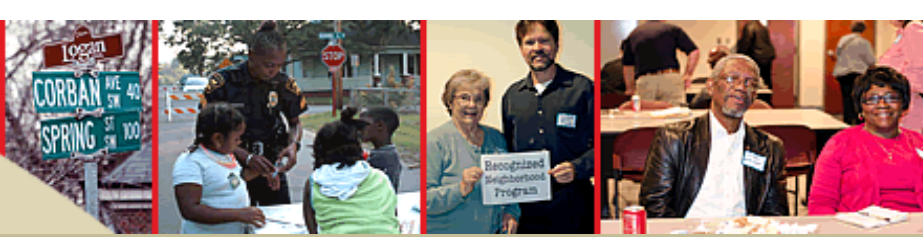
Increasingly, residents of urban and suburban areas are having firsthand experience with coyotes – seeing them in their yards, parks and neighborhoods. Coyotes now inhabit every state in the country except Hawaii, and like other wildlife, are adapting to the urban-suburban environment and are opportunistic in finding food and resources available in these places.

When: December 19, 2016

Where: Fire Station #9 (1020 Ivey Cline Road)

Join the discussion as we educate ourselves about how these animals arrived in our area, why they have been so successful and how to avoid negative interactions. During the workshop, neighborhood leaders will be able to participate in an open discussion with a professional wildlife biologist from the NC Wildlife Resources Commission who will share factual information on coyote behavior, wildlife laws and best practices for coexisting and wildlife management.

[Click here](#) to RSVP for this important workshop or send a email to jzarc@concordnc.gov. To learn more about Coyotes, visit www.ncwildlife.org.



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Larissa Blankenship installs Little Free Library boxes for Gold Award project



October 24 - January 27

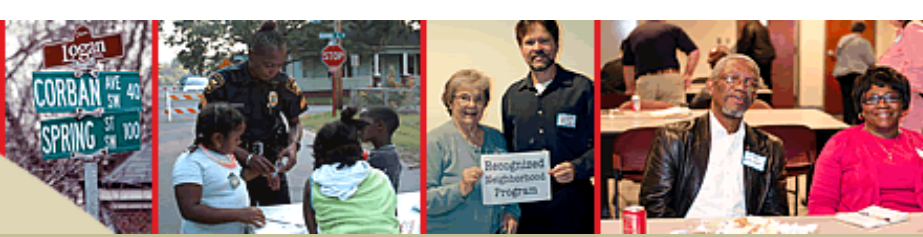
Larissa Blankenship, a senior at Jay M. Robinson High School and member of Girl Scout Troop 790 of Harrisburg, NC, recently finished her Gold Award Project. The Gold Award is the highest award in Girl Scouts and is equivalent to that of the Eagle Award in Boy Scouts. For her project Larissa incorporated libraries into three neighborhoods in our area; Carolando, Morris Glen, and Carriage Downs.

The idea for the project came from the Little Free Libraries that have been popping up across the country. The goal of Larissa's project, much like the Little Free Libraries, is to promote literacy and reading, and bring the community together. By having libraries in the neighborhoods, neighbors can share their love of certain books or their love of reading with others, and these books are made easily accessible to busy families or other individuals who may not have time to make a trip to a public library.

Larissa also incorporated butterfly gardens with two libraries in the neighborhoods. Over the past twenty years the U.S. Monarch Butterfly population has decreased by ninety percent and bee colonies across the world have begun to collapse. This dramatic loss is the effect of suitable habitats for these insects being destroyed as a result of increased urbanization. However, The Butterfly Highway and the city of Concord's Mayor's Monarch Pledge both work to restore habitats that these species need to survive.

Visit littlefreelibrary.org to learn more about the Little Free Library organization. To find more information about The Butterfly Highway project or about starting your own pollinator garden visit ncwf.org.

Article written by Larissa Blankenship



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Neighborhood Meeting Schedule

December 1

*Province Greene - 632 Weyburn Drive, 7PM

December 5

*Gable Oaks HOA, 7PM

December 6

*Roberta Farms, Crossroads Church Room 120 7PM

*Laurel Park – Community Clubhouse, 6:30PM

December 8

[City Council Meeting – City Hall, 6PM](#)

Glen Grove – Fire Station #8, 6PM

Yates Meadows - Roberta United Methodist Church, 7PM

December 12

Oakleaf – Clubhouse, 6PM

*Christenbury HOA, 6:30PM

Residents of Historic Concord- 205 Union Street South, 7PM

December 13

Gibson Village - Clearwater Artist Studio, 6:30PM

*Morris Glen – Speedway Club, 6:30PM

*Asheford Greene – TBD, 7PM

*Highland Creek - Community Clubhouse, 7PM

**Board Meeting*

December 14

*Wyndham Place – 434 Wyndham Pl NE, 2:30PM

*Winding Walk - 10660 Fairwoods Dr, 6PM

Brandon Ridge – Fire Station #8, 7PM

December 15

[Historic Preservation Commission Meeting, 7PM](#)

Winecoff School Rd & Belvedere - Flow Harris

*Covington - Speedway Club Boardroom, 6PM

December 19

*Kings Crossing – Clubhouse, 7PM

*Oak Park – Community Clubhouse, 7PM

*The Woodlands – 5719 Woodridge Ct NW, 7PM

December 20

[Planning & Zoning, 6PM](#)

*Carriage Downs - Clubhouse, 7PM

Silver Hill - Primitive Baptist Church, 6PM

December 21

Sheffield Manor – Pool Clubhouse, 6:30PM

December 23 & 26

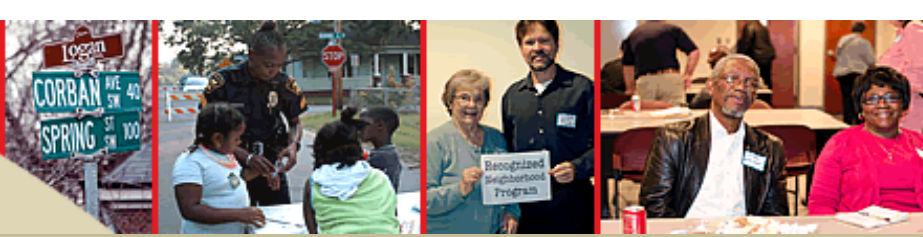
[CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY – City offices closed](#)

December 26

Logan Community Meeting - Logan Multi-Purpose Center, 6pm

Moss Creek - Clubhouse, 6:30 PM

Don't see your upcoming meeting on this list? [Click here and provide your updated information.](#)



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News Headlines

Concord Fire Marshal lifts burning ban, emphasizes caution

The City of Concord joins Cabarrus County in lifting a burning ban that previously prohibited burning within 100 feet of a structure. This is effective immediately within City of Concord corporate limits. In addition, the State of North Carolina lifted its open burning ban in [Cabarrus and 31 other counties](#) effective 5:00 p.m. Friday, December 2. Citizens are urged to still take additional precautions to ensure permitted cooking fires, recreational fires, bonfires, and outdoor fireplaces are attended at all times and a means of extinguishment is provided on the property in which the burning is occurring. For more information, please contact the Concord Fire Marshal's Office at 704-920-5517 or read the full article at concordnc.gov.

Residents encouraged to join the 2017 Public Safety Academy

Applications are now available for the City of Concord's 13th Citizen Public Safety Academy. The course will allow citizens to learn about the functions of Concord's public safety departments, meet staff, and help evaluate services. The ten-week academy will begin January 31 and end on April 4. Consecutive classes will be held each Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Class size is limited to 20, and applications are due January 24. For more information, contact Leslie Griffin at the Police Department (email: griffinl@concordnc.gov; mail: P.O. Box 308, Concord NC, 28026; fax: 704-920-6970). To download an application, visit concordnc.gov.

Cabarrus Human Services offers energy bill assistance for seniors and disabled

North Carolina's Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) made a difference in more than 1,750 Cabarrus County households last year, providing a total of \$474,900 in aid to qualified residents. The program, administered locally by Cabarrus County Human Services, is once again taking applications for one-time annual vendor payment to help with heating bills. For the month of December, the program targets households with a member age 60 or older and households in which one member is determined disabled by the Social Security or Veterans Administration and is receiving services through the Division of Aging and Adult Services. The program opens to all other households between January 1 and March 31, 2017. For more information visit cabarruscounty.us or call 704-920-1400.

Stay Connected!

Visit the City's website for the latest information and updates at concordnc.gov. Check out our page on [Facebook](#) and our other [interactive features](#)!

Have you experienced great service from Team Concord?

If you have had an experience from our team that left an impact, we hope you'll let us know so we can recognize that coworker with a "High 5 for Excellent Service." You can get started by visiting concordnc.gov/High5 or call 704-920-6400 to submit your acknowledgement over the phone. Please share this newsletter by forwarding it to your neighbors.

[Partnership for Stronger Neighborhoods](#)